

Message Text

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SUBJ: BUSINESSMEN WILL BUTTRESS SWEDISH GOVERNMENT DELEGATION
AT FORTHCOMING MEETING OF JOINT SOVIET-SWEDISH INDUSTRIAL
COLLABORATION COMMISSION

1. ACCORDING TO THE BUSINESS PAPER DAGENS INDUSTRI OF JAN 3,
THE REGULAR ANNUAL MEETING OF THE JOINT SOVIET-SWEDISH INDUS-
TRIAL COLLABORATION COMMISSION WILL BE HELD IN MOSCOW JAN 16-20.
INDUSTRY MINISTER ASLING WILL REPORTEDLY HEAD THE SWEDISH
DELEGATION, WHICH WILL ALSO INCLUDE THE HEAD OF THE SWEDISH
TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD, SIGVARD TOMNER, AND THE DIRECTOR
GENERAL OF THE NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL BOARD, ERIK PETTERSSON.

2. DAGENS INDUSTRI NOTES THAT SWEDISH BUSINESS IS COMING
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DIRECTLY INTO THE PICTURE FOR THE FIRST TIME THIS YEAR AND
THAT SOME 60 SWEDISH FIRMS WILL BE REPRESENTED AT THE TALKS
IN MOSCOW. STEN NIKLASSON, DIVISIONAL CHIEF AT THE INDUSTRY
MINISTRY, TOLD THE PAPER THAT THE SWEDES WOULD BE CONCENTRATING
THEIR EFFORTS ON 4 TO 5 MAIN AREAS; "THE FIRMS WILL BE DIVIDED
INTO SUB-GROUPS FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN THE
VARIOUS SOVIET MINISTRIES INVOLVED."

3. THE FOLLOWING ARE THE AREAS AND FIRMS MENTIONED IN THE ARTICLE: A) WOOD PROCESSING, PULP AND PAPER (KARLSTADS MEKANISKA VERKSTAD, SVENSKA FALKT, STATSFORETAG, KOCKUMS MEKANISKA BERSTAD, GOTAVERKE, JOHNSON GROUP); B) FARMING AND FOOD (COOPERATIVE AND WHOLESALE SOCIETY, THE FARMERS' PURCHASING AND MARKETING ASSOCIATION, THE UNION-OWNED BPA CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, ELECTROLUX, AND ALFA-LAVAL); C) ENERGY (SVENSKA FLAKT, ASEA-ATOM, STATSFORETAG, AND STAL LAVAL); D) IRON AND STEEL (SKF STEEL, GRANGES TRADING, STATSFORETAG, AND THE JOHNSON GROUP); AND E) TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE (TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD AND ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING SCIENCES).

4. SWEDISH TRADE WITH THE SOVIET UNION, WHICH DURING THE LAST FEW YEARS HAS TOTALED \$600-700 MILLION, HAS TRADITIONALLY BEEN IN DEFICIT: IN 1975 BY ABOUT \$200 MILLION, IN 1976 BY \$195 MILLION, AND IN THE FIRST THREE QUARTERS OF 1977 BY \$165 MILLION. SWEDISH IMPORTS FROM THE SOVIET UNION COMPRISE RAW MATERIALS, OF WHICH FUELS ACCOUNT FOR SOME 65 PERCENT. SWEDISH EXPORTS TO THE SOVIET UNION MAINLY CONSIST OF MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT AND PULP AND PAPER.

KENNEDY-MINOTT

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